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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :
SHIGEMI WAKABAYASHI : EXAMINER: SHOSHO, C.
SERIAL NO: 10/743,076 :
FILED: DECEMBER 23, 2003 : GROUP ART UNIT: 1714
FOR: WATER-BASED INK :

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RESPONSE AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

"RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116-
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE EXAMINING
GROUP 1714"

SIR:

In response to the Office Action of December 7, 2006, reconsideration of the above-identified application is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Claims 1-3 and 5-17 remain active in this application.

The claimed invention is directed to a water-based ink comprising an aqueous dispersion of polymer particles of a water-insoluble polymer having an alkyl group of at least 20-30 carbon atoms on its side chain and an acid value of 30-120 mgKOH/g and a hydrophobic dye.

Applicant wishes to thank examiner Shosho for the helpful and courteous discussion held with their U.S. representative on January 17, 2007. At that time, applicant's U.S. representative argued that an improved performance for a polymer having a C₂₀₋₃₀ alkyl group was observed as compared with a C₁ and a C₁₂ alkyl group, citing the data in